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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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MONTANA ANTELOPES TRANSPLANTED TO NORTH DAKOTA

Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay said today that 134 wild antelopes were transplanted from Montana to North Dakota recently under a wildlife restoration program administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The animals were transported by truck from an antelope range near Helena to release points north of Bismarck.

Covering more than 700 miles, the trip is said to have broken all distance records for transporting large numbers of this species.

All of the animals completed the trip without injury. Closed-in trucks were used so that the animals were kept in darkness, remaining quiet during the transfer.

The operation was a Pittman-Robertson Act project, financed through the Fish and Wildlife Service's Federal Aid Program and carried out jointly by the two States involved. Wildlife authorities point to the program as a good example of cooperation between States for a better distribution of game.

The American antelope claims the attention of sportsmen and nature lovers alike. A vestige of pioneer days, it has staged a remarkable comeback in recent years through Federal and State conservation efforts.

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